

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SWF-02 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-03 SP-03

STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SS-20

NSC-07 SAJ-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 NIC-01 /162 W
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R 101749Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2179

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, GR, FR, EEC

SUBJECT: VIEWS OF FRENCH OFFICIAL ON GREEK MEMBERSHIP
IN EC

REF: PARIS 21189

1. BRUNET, DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, MFA, HAS GIVEN
ECON/COM MIN FURTHER INSIGHT INTO GOF DISCUSSIONS WITH
GREECE ON QUESTION OF GREECE'S RELATIONSHIP TO EC.
BRUNET SAID THAT, DURING A HOLIDAY IN GREECE, HE HAD MET
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BRIEFLY WITH AN OLD FRIEND, PEZZAMOGLU, THE NEW GREEK

FINANCE MINISTER. HE SAID HE HAD BEEN SHOCKED AND SURPRISED BY PEZZAMOGLU'S VIEWS ON GREEK MEMBERSHIP. HE SAID THE MEMO SUBMITTED TO THE COMMUNITY BY THE KARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT HAD MERELY CALLED FOR A REACTIVATION OF THE 1967 TREATY OF ASSOCIATION TOGETHER WITH A CLEAR INDICATION THAT GREECE'S GOAL WAS ULTIMATE FULL MEMBERSHIP. HOWEVER, PEZZAMOGLU HAD TOLD HIM THAT WHAT GREECE WANTED WAS FULL MEMBERSHIP IN 1975. HE SAID GREECE WAS JUST AS QUALIFIED AS IRELAND FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP AND WANTED TO BECOME A FULL MEMBER LIKE IRELAND. BRUNET SAID HE ATTEMPTED TO DISSUADE HIM, POINTING OUT THAT IF GREECE BECAME A FULL MEMBER, THEN TURKEY WOULD ALSO INSIST ON FULL MEMBERSHIP. THIS ARGUMENT HAD SEEMED TO TAKE PEZZAMOGLU ABACK.

2. WHEN BRUNET RETURNED TO ATHENS, HE SAID HE IMMEDIATELY ALERTED GISCARD, CHIRAC, AND SAUVAGNARGUES THAT FOREIGN MINISTER MAVROS WAS LIKELY TO ASK FOR FRENCH SUPPORT FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP WHEN HE CAME TO PARIS. AND IN FACT, THOUGH WITH SOMEWHAT MORE NUANCE THAN PEZZAMOGLU, THIS IS PRECISELY WHAT HE HAD DONE. BRUNET SAID HE HAD ADVISED THE GOVERNMENT NOT TO GIVE MAVROS A FLAT TURN-DOWN. HE WOULD GET THIS IN BRUSSELS ANYWAY, BRUNET REASONED, AND THE GOF MIGHT AS WELL EARN A LITTLE GOODWILL FROM THE GREEK GOVERNMENT. UNFORTUNATELY, CHIRAC HAD GONE MUCH FURTHER WITH MAVROS THAN BRUNET HAD EXPECTED OR THOUGHT WISE, EXPRESSING WARM SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE IDEA OF FULL GREEK MEMBERSHIP NEXT YEAR.

3. BRUNET SAID THAT, AS A MATTER OF FACT, FULL MEMBERSHIP FOR GREECE WAS NOT SUCH A BAD IDEA. THE REAL DIFFICULTY WITH IT, AS HE SAW IT, WAS THAT IT WOULD ENCOURAGE COUNTRIES LIKE SPAIN AND PORTUGAL TO ASK FOR THE SAME THING. IF THREE OR FOUR MORE COUNTRIES CAME INTO THE COMMUNITY, IT WOULD FALL APART OF ITS OWN WEIGHT. IN ANY CASE, HE CONCLUDED, THE QUESTION WAS PROBABLY ACADEMIC BECAUSE THE COMMISSION IN BRUSSELS COULD BE COUNTED ON TO THROW PLENTY OF COLD WATER ON THE IDEA.

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4. BRUNET ALSO MENTIONED THAT GREEKS HAD COME UP WITH AN ANSWER TO HIS OBJECTION THAT, IF GREECE CAME IN, TURKEY WOULD ALSO WANT FULL MEMBERSHIP: HE SAID MAVROS HAD TOLD SAUVAGNARGUES THAT GREECE WAS RICHER THAN TURKEY AND THAT THEREFORE TURKEY COULD NOT EXPECT PARALLEL TREATMENT.

IRWIN

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